(c) Efforts are made to ensure adequate strength of doctors and nurses as per the requirements of Hospitals/Health Services Institutions from time to time.

Vayudoot services in Jammu and Kashmir

4160. SHRI DHARAM PAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have committed to start Vayudoot services between Jammu-Poonch, Jammu-Rajouri and Jammu-Kishtwar in J. & K. State; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not starting the services so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Subject to availability of aircraft capacity, development of infrastructure and economic viability of operations, Vayudoot has plans to provide air services to Jammu, Rajouri, Kishtwar and Surankot in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. At present there are no proposals to airlink Poonch by Vayudoot services.

(b) Subject to availability of aircraft capacity, Vayudoot has plans to airlink Rajouri in the immediate future. Vayudoot operations to Surankot and Kishtwar will not be possible for the present as there are no operational airfields there.

Highway from Batote to Kishtwar

4161. SHRI DHARAM PAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the expenditure incurred on construction of Batote Kishtwar (J & K State) National Highway, so far;

(b) whether it is a fact that the huge expenditure incurred on the construction of this Highway does not commensurate with the progress and that the quality of the work is also not satisfactory; and

(c) whether the Government propose to set up an impartial agency to have the matter thoroughly looked into and fix the responsibility for misappropriation of public money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) An expenditure of Rs. 27.98 crores has been incurred on this road which was declared as National Highway in May, 1977.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Revival of Helicopter service between Jammu and Katra Vaishnodevi

4162. SHRI DHARAM PAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the causes for delaying the revival of the helicopter service between Jammu and Katra Vaishnodevi; and

(b) by when this service is likely to be revived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) The helicopter services between Jammu and Katra Vaishnodevi have not been revived so far due to non-availability of Defence helipad and non-completion of the Civil helipad at Sanjichhat.

(b) Subject to completion of the civil helipad at Sanjichhat, the helicopter services will be restored after September, 1988.

Setting up of a NIS coaching centre in Kerala

4163. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of the proposal given by the Government of Kerala for setting up of a NIS State Coaching Centre in this State; and

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in giving clearance for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The Governing Body of Sports Authority of India has decided to set up six Regional Centres. The South Centre is being developed at Bangalore. The requirements of Kerala will be served by the Centre at Bangalore. Sports Authority of India, therefore, do not propose to set up a separate Centre in Kerala.

Posts of Assistant Professor in JIPMER, Pondicherry

4164. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of posts of Assistant Professor which are temporary or are lying vacant in different categories in the JIPMER, Pondicherry; and

(b) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The number of temporary posts of Assistant Professor in JIPMER, Pondicherry is 31. The number of vacant posts is 19, out of total number of 65 posts of Asstt. Professor.

(b) The main reason for non-filling of posts of Assistant Professor in JIPMER, Pondicherry is general reluctance on the part of the selected candidates to join. For some posts, particularly of super specialities and those reserved for candidates belonging to S. C. and S. T., candidates are not available inspite of UPSC advertisements.

Construction of railway line from Jammu to Udhampur

4165. SHRI DHARAM PAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) since when the construction of Railway line from Jammu and Udhampur has been going on;

(b) what is the total cost involved on this project;

(c) what is the expenditure incurred so far; and

(d) what is the expected date of completion of this project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) 1981-82.

(b) Rs. 112 crore.

(c) Expenditure incurred upto March '88 is Rs. 14.54 crore. Outlay for 1988-89 is Rs. 7 crore.

(d) Its completion will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.

Crash of helicopter near Pondicherry

4166. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a helicopter of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission crashed off Pondicherry coast on the 12th August, 1988;

(b) if so, what are the details of the crash indicating the number and identity of casualties; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted to ascertain the cause of crash, if so, what are the findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) A Dauphin SA365N helicopter of Pawan Hans Ltd. on charter to ONGC on a flight from Madras to offshore rigs Sagar Prabhat and Badrinath crashed on 12.8.88 approx. 10 miles east of Pondicherry. The last call was transmitted by the helicopter at 1526 IST and contact was lost thereafter. Both crew members and all 8 passengers on board are believed killed. Three bodies have been recovered. The